

Themeda triandra
Kangaroo Grass
AUSTRALIAN PLANTS
SOCIETY
BALLARAT DISTRICT

Australian Plants Society Ballarat District Newsletter – March 2024

**MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE 2ND WEDNESDAY
at ROBERT CLARK HORTICULTURAL CENTRE
GILLIES STREET ENTRANCE – GATE 3 or 4**

FURTHER DETAILS SEE INFORMATION BOX

COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH 2024

MONTHLY MEETING

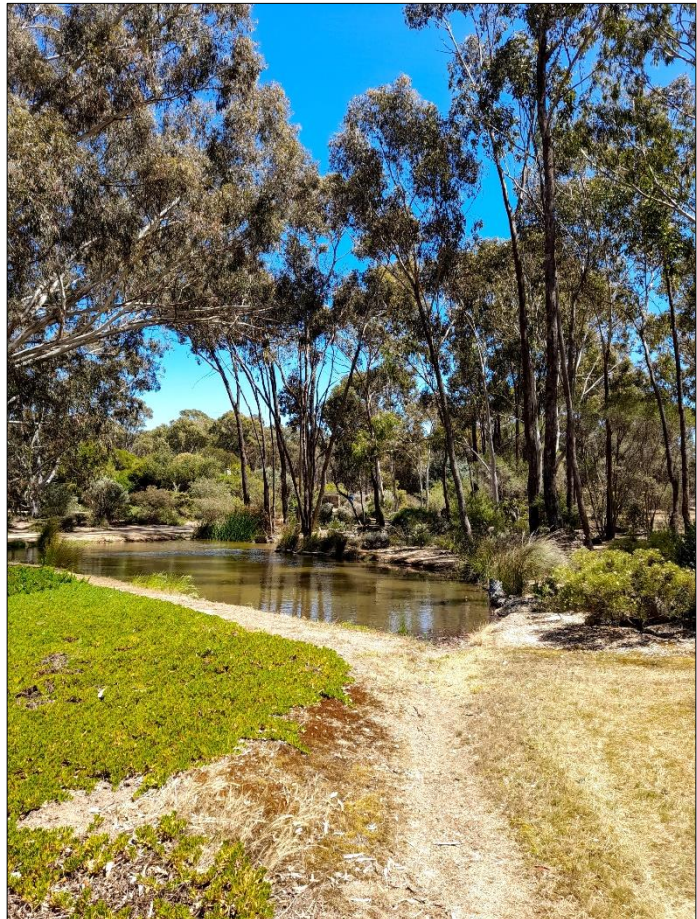
→ CANCELLED ←

**Due to the Robert Clarke Horticultural
Centre being unavailable.**

Wednesday 10th April 2024 – *2.00 pm*
Monthly Meeting – Note Time: 2.00 pm
(Meetings are conducted in the afternoon
during non-daylight-saving period.)
Guest speaker to be advised

APS Geelong Native Plant Sale
Sat April 13th – 8.30am-4.00pm
‘Wirra Willa’
40 Lovely Banks Rd, Lovely Banks

A peaceful scene in the Collier garden east of Avoca Victoria, venue of our excursion there last November. The picture tells the story. Photo: Ainslie Whyte



February Guest Speaker report – Ainslie Whyte

Ian Evans – Top End Grevilleas

Ian has been a member of the Grevillea Study Group since 1980. He now regularly spends time collecting flowering grevillea samples (under permit) for DNA for some of the State Herbariums. Ian's presentation covered a collecting trip to the Top End made in June-July 2018.

The trips involve a tight schedule following a list of particular grevilleas, and co-ordinates for where they've been sighted before. Frustrations can include not being allowed on a property or reserve, or getting lost and running out of time. Sometimes they charter a flight over an area where particular grevilleas have been located before. Specimens collected are kept in an esky during the day and transferred to a silicon envelope that night to start the drying process.

Ian's slides showed grevilleas with a variety of colours and many different forms. An interesting fact he mentioned is that the seeds of most white-flowered grevilleas in Western Australia exude a caustic substance which can burn and blister skin. Most of the plants they collected on this trip aren't suited to our climate and soil. The exception is *Grevillea wickhamii* subsp. *aprica*, which has had some success in Victoria. **Thanks to Ian for an interesting and informative presentation. □**

VALE LANCE LEWIS

Died 26th January 2014 aged 86

Fon Ryan

Lance Lewis joined APS Ballarat District (formerly SGAP Central Highlands), along with Judith, in 1981, not long after moving to Ballarat from Melbourne.

Lance was a regular, active and dedicated attendee at meetings and most or all events of our society, and at set-up and pack-up for Flower Shows. Even more recently-joined members will know of his legendary 'full-time' work in the kitchen during those Flower Shows – and we remember the discussions and opinions shared. Illness prevented his attendance at meetings and events in the last few years.



Lance and Judith were always dedicated members. As well as the usual member involvement, Lance supported Judith when she took on extra roles, especially several years as Flower Show Coordinator. He and Judith hosted committee meetings at their home, planning the 1995 ASGAP (national) Conference in Ballarat, as well as several garden visits for our members. Lance, for many years, was Ballarat's delegate to the Victorian Committee of Management quarterly meetings (held around the state). They were awarded Life membership of APS Ballarat District many years ago.

In 2010 Lance and Judith were recognized by the Society for Growing Australian Plants Victoria (now APS Victoria) and awarded a 'Certificate of Commendation' (see photo above). The commendation on the certificates reads:

In appreciation of the service you have
given the Society for Growing Australian Plants
Victoria, the Society is pleased to give you this
'Certificate of Commendation'

APS Ballarat District members offer our deepest sympathy to Judith and the family

Specimens exhibited at February Meeting

Claire Dalman - *Epacris longiflora*, *Brachyscome* 'Margaret Martins Daisy', *Grevillea sp.*, *Chrysocephalum* 'Golden_Buttons'

Ruth Marton - *Anigozanthos* 'Big Red', *Eucalyptus lansdowneana*, *E. allopurpurea*, *Banksia serrata*, *B. blechnifolia*, *Baekea linifolia*, *Hibbertia scandens*



From Sue Ring:

Never seen so many butterflies, in the morning they are quite high in the sky, almost like snow, as they come up from resting places to settle down to the nectar chase.

Photo taken 3rd February. Looks like a young *Corymbia ficifolia* (Western Australian Red-flowering Gum).

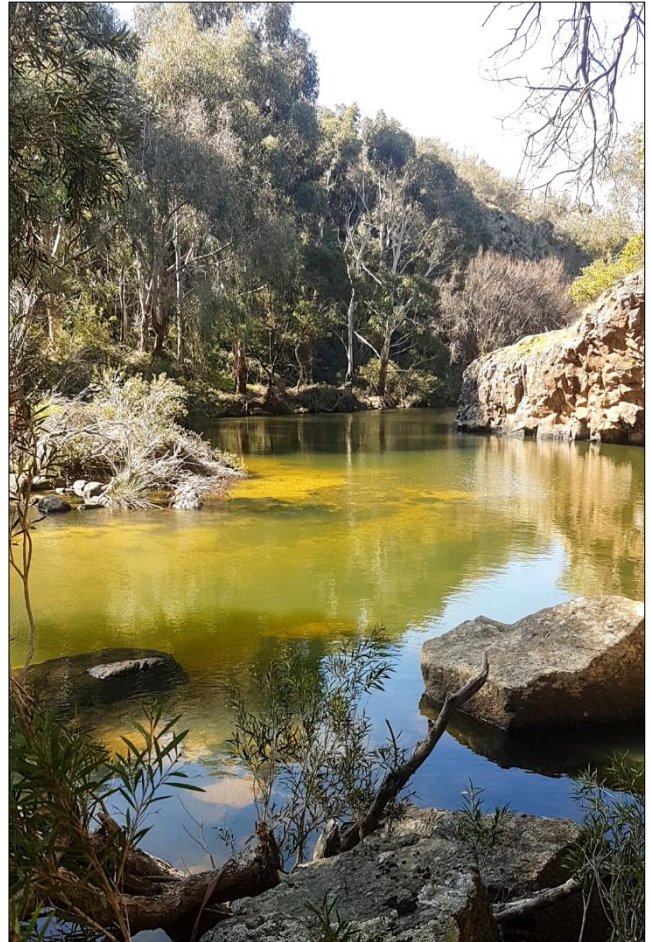
**Follow APS Ballarat
District on our Facebook
page.**

Lots of interest,
information, good pics and
posts.

[https://www.facebook.com
/APSBallarat](https://www.facebook.com/APSBallarat)



A scene in the Collier garden east of Avoca Victoria, venue of our excursion there last November. An 'ornamental' tree stump leads us over a pebbled watercourse to a meandering path.
Photo: Ainslie Whyte



Native vegetation at the Devils Kitchen out from Linton (30km south west of Ballarat). Oh, and a bit of nice scenery as well!
Photo: Sue Ring

TEN YEAR FLASHBACK TO MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER
Specimen from the February 2014 meeting Specimen Table

Grevillea lanigera
'Honeyeater Heaven'
shown by Mike Healy. Grevilleas come in a vast range of shapes, sizes and colours. This one is small, yellow, bright and very pretty.
Picture: Fon Ryan





Banksia marginata 'Minimarg'

A dwarf Banksia that grows to between 1-3 metres in the garden of Bruce Cadoret in Ballarat.

Photo: Bruce Cadoret

*Thanks to those who contributed
reports or items for this issue*

Deadline for April Newsletter
27th March 2024

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY BALLARAT DISTRICT INC. Incorporation No. A0013127M

President: Phyllis Wright M: 0418 303 405
Secretary: Gloria Salt PO Box 123W Ballarat West 3350
Treasurer: Ainslie Whyte PO Box 123W Ballarat West 3350
Newsletter Editor: Warren Hill: wazizhill@gmail.com M: 0400 644 913

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in October, November, December, February, March, at 7-30pm
The **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in April, May, June, July, August, September, at 2-00pm

MEETING VENUE

ROBERT CLARK HORTICULTURAL CENTRE, Ballarat Botanical Gardens

Access: GILLIES St. ENTRANCE – GATE 3 or 4 (or from Wendouree Parade **Afternoon Meetings only**)

CORRESPONDENCE : ballarat@apsvic.org.au PO Box 123W, Ballarat West, Vic 3350

N'LETTER CONTRIBUTIONS: wazizhill@gmail.com

WEBPAGE: <https://apsvic.org.au/aps-ballarat-district/>



FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/APSBallarat>



INSTAGRAM:

<http://www.instagram.com/apsballaratdistrict>